

108TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. RES. 212

Welcoming His Holiness the Fourteenth Dalai Lama and recognizing his commitment to non-violence, human rights, freedom, and democracy.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 31 (legislative day, JULY 21), 2003

Mrs. FEINSTEIN submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

RESOLUTION

Welcoming His Holiness the Fourteenth Dalai Lama and recognizing his commitment to non-violence, human rights, freedom, and democracy.

Whereas for over 40 years in exile, His Holiness the Fourteenth Dalai Lama has used his position and leadership to promote compassion and non-violence as a solution to not only the present crisis in Tibet, but to other long-running conflicts around the world;

Whereas the Dalai Lama was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1989 in recognition of his efforts to seek a peaceful resolution to the situation in Tibet, and to promote non-violent methods for resolving conflict;

Whereas the Dalai Lama has been a strong voice for the basic human rights of all peoples, particularly freedom of religion;

Whereas the Dalai Lama has personally promoted democratic self-government for Tibetans in exile as a model for securing freedom for all Tibet, including relinquishing his political positions and turning these authorities over to elected Tibetan representatives;

Whereas the Dalai Lama seeks a solution for Tibet that provides genuine autonomy for the Tibetan people and does not call for independence and separation from the People's Republic of China;

Whereas the envoys of the Dalai Lama have traveled to China and Tibet twice in the past year to begin discussions with Chinese authorities on a permanent negotiated settlement of the Tibet issue;

Whereas the successful advancement of these discussions is in the strong interest of both the Chinese and Tibetan people; and

Whereas it is the policy of the United States to support substantive dialogue between the Government of the People's Republic of China and the Dalai Lama or his representatives: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That it is the sense of the Senate that—

2 (1) the visit of the Dalai Lama to the United
3 States in September 2003 is warmly welcomed;

4 (2) the Dalai Lama should be recognized and
5 congratulated for his consistent efforts to promote
6 dialogue to peacefully resolve the Tibet issue and to
7 increase the religious and cultural autonomy of the
8 Tibetan people; and

1 (3) all parties to the current discussions should
2 be encouraged by the Government of the United
3 States to deepen these contacts in order to achieve
4 the aspirations of the people of Tibet for genuine au-
5 tonomy and basic human rights.

